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Keynote Lecture

“Protest Event Data: New Techniques for a Time-Honored Data Source”

**Sarah A. Soule
Graduate School of Business
Stanford University
soule@stanford.edu**

A methodological staple for sociologists and political scientists interested in the study of social movements and contentious politics is *protest event data*. These data are typically gleaned from various media sources, and researchers content code media accounts for basic information about protest events, to create large databases (often referred to as event catalogs). These data are then coupled with various other large datasets to make arguments about the causes and consequences of protest and contentious politics. Over time, scholars have grown increasingly sophisticated in the use of these data in quantitative research. This talk will describe several historical trends in the quantitative analysis of protest data, emphasizing current research that has made leaps and bounds because of both the increasing availability of protest event data, and the diffusion of computationally intensive techniques of analysis.